

Application/Control Number: 09/913,317
Art Unit: 3643
March 26, 2007
Page 2

Amendments to the Claims

1-42 Cancelled

43.(Previously amended) A method of preparing a plant cultivation, comprising, also in a different time sequence, the following operating steps:

preparing a seeding bed and introducing seeds therein;
dividing the seeding bed into sods;

cohesion treatment, whereby the resulting sod is not brittle, makes it possible to maintain a geometric shape and allows proper handling until a laying step is completed;

laying the sod and
moistening the sod before or after laying and regular watering after laying, wherein said cohesion treatment is performed by laying a single layer of adhesive directly on the entire outer surface of said sod, said adhesive being a natural adhesive.

44. (Previously amended) The method according to claim 43, wherein, after drying, the sod is packaged in a package for its preservation, storage and transport, under vacuum.

45. (Previously added) The method according to claim 43, wherein said preparation of a seeding bed comprises dosage of said seeds and said layer of glue and the mixing thereof.

46. (Previously added) The method according to claim 43, wherein said preparation of a seeding bed is obtained by depositing successive layers of various components.

47. (Previously added) The method according to claim 43, wherein said division into sods occurs by molding a mix in a template, die or by extrusion in the chosen sod shape.

Application/Control Number: 09/913,317

Art Unit: 3643

March 26, 2007

Page 3

48. (Previously added) The method according to claim 43, wherein said division into sods occurs by die-cutting.

49. (Previously added) The method according to claim 43, wherein said seed insertion occurs by implantation with a seeding machine.

50. (Previously added) The method according to claim 43, wherein said introduction of seeds occurs by depositing a layer of seeds.

51. (Previously added) The method according to claim 43, wherein said drying is nondestructive and reduces the percentage of humidity in the seeding bed to the point at which seed germination is no longer possible and tends to preserve the possibility of rapid future revival of microorganisms activity without degrading the natural and chemical organic substances present in the seeding bed.

52. (Previously added) The method according to claim 51, wherein said drying is performed by exposure in a ventilated greenhouse.

53. (Previously added) The method according to claim 51, wherein said drying is provided by means of low-temperature heat sources and by air change.

54. (Previously added) A sod for cultivating plants, obtained with the method according to claim 43, comprising a seeded seeding bed including a fertilizer and wrapped or at least held together by a suitable organic bonding agent so as to maintain its shape.

55. (Previously added) The sod according to claim 54, wherein said bonding agent is biodegradable.

56. (Previously added) The sod according to claim 55, wherein said bonding agent comprises at least one colloidal substance.

57. (Previously added) The sod according to claim 56, wherein said bonding agent comprises glue of vegetable or animal origin.

58. (Previously added) The sod according to claim 57, wherein said

Application/Control Number: 09/913,317
Art Unit: 3643
March 26, 2007
Page 4

seeding bed comprises soil which includes mineral substances and at least one organic substance.

59. (Previously added) The sod according to claim 58, wherein said organic substance comprises one or more fertilizers.

60. (Previously added) The sod according to claim 59, comprising at least one selective herbicide which hinders the germination and growth of plants which are different from, and antagonists of, those whose growth is sought.

61. (Previously added) The sod according to claim 60, having a geometric shape which makes it possible to cover continuously the surface to be revegetated.

62. (Currently amended) A method of preparing a plant cultivation, comprising, also in a different time sequence, the following operating steps:

- preparing a seeding bed and introducing seeds therein;
- dividing the seeding bed into sods;

- cohesion treatment, whereby the resulting sod is not brittle, makes it possible to maintain a geometric shape and allows proper handling until a laying step is completed;

- laying the sod and
- moistening the sod before or after laying and regular watering after laying, a nondestructive drying step being also performed on the sod, wherein said cohesion treatment including the sod being mixed with a single bonding agent in a chamber, said single bonding agent being layered directly on the entire outer surface of said sod.

63. (Previously amended) The method according to claim 62, wherein, after drying, the sod is packaged in a suitable package for its preservation, storage and transport, under vacuum.

Application/Control Number: 09/913,317
Art Unit: 3643
March 26, 2007
Page 5

64. (Previously amended) The method according to claim 62, wherein said preparation of a seeding bed comprises dosage of said seeds and a layer of said bonding agent and the mixing thereof.

65. (Previously added) The method according to claim 62, wherein said preparation of a seeding bed is obtained by depositing successive layers of various components.

66. (Previously added) The method according to claim 62, wherein said division into sods occurs by molding a mix in a template, die or by extrusion in the chosen sod shape.

67. (Previously added) The method according to claim 62, wherein said division into sods occurs by die-cutting.

68. (Previously added) The method according to claim 62, wherein said seed insertion occurs by implantation with a seeding machine.

69. (Previously added) The method according to claim 62, wherein said introduction of seeds occurs by depositing a layer of seeds.

70. (Previously added) The method according to claim 62, wherein said drying is nondestructive and reduces the percentage of humidity in the seeding bed to the point at which seed germination is no longer possible and tends to preserve the possibility of rapid future revival of microorganisms activity without degrading the natural and chemical organic substances present in the seeding bed.

71. (Previously added) The method according to claim 70, wherein said drying is performed by exposure in a ventilated greenhouse.

72. (Previously added) The method according to claim 70, wherein said drying is provided by means of low-temperature heat sources and by air change.

73. (Previously added) A sod for cultivating plants, obtained with the method according to claim 62, comprising a seeded seeding bed including

Application/Control Number: 09/913,317
Art Unit: 3643
March 26, 2007
Page 6

a fertilizer and wrapped or at least held together by a suitable organic bonding agent so as to maintain its shape.

74. (Previously added) The sod according to claim 73, wherein said bonding agent is biodegradable.

75. (Previously added) The sod according to claim 74, wherein said bonding agent comprises at least one colloidal substance.

76. (Previously added) The sod according to claim 75, wherein said bonding agent comprises glue of vegetable or animal origin.

77. (Previously added) The sod according to claim 76, wherein said seeding bed comprises soil which includes mineral substances and at least one organic substance.

78. (Previously added) The sod according to claim 77, wherein said organic substance comprises one or more fertilizers.

79. (Previously added) The sod according to claim 78, comprising at least one selective herbicide which hinders the germination and growth of plants which are different from, and antagonists of, those whose growth is sought.

80. (Previously added) The sod according to claim 79, having a geometric shape which makes it possible to cover continuously the surface to be revegetated.

81. (Currently amended) A method of preparing a plant cultivation, comprising the steps of:

preparing a seeding bed;

~~dividing~~ cutting the seeding bed into sods, by pressing the seeding bed;

~~introducing~~ inserting seeds in the sods after the sods have been defined by pressing the seeding bed;

laying the sod and

Application/Control Number: 09/913,317
Art Unit: 3643
March 26, 2007
Page 7

moistening the sod before or after laying and regular watering after laying.

82. (Previously added) The method according to claim 81, further comprising a step of depositing a layer of adhesive agent on a surface of said sods where seeds have been introduced.

83. (Previously added) The method according to claim 81, wherein said step of preparing the seeding bed comprises the step of mixing the sods with an adhesive agent.